

Letters/Tel. calls

Aug 2005 Margaret's
occasional notes

10/21/ Friday. Words to look up plangent (? harpsichord notes?)
In Fowler gobet matches ? (fly catcher)

This notebook
contains several hard-to-read
carbon copies of my letters
to ~~for~~ family members
and to Alice . . .
and . . .

Reviewed August
20 —

GRE
GR
S

BOOK

6"x 9"
80 SHEETS



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Friday, Sept 2, 2005
Surfside, Nantucket

Dear Peter and Letty,

I have been much too lazy about writing to you, have thought of you daily. This will be our 5th whole day on the island. Tomorrow, Saturday, Jochen and I expect to leave on a noon steamship, carrying and sending along on ship ~~lashing~~ carts as much gear as we can, perhaps even some of Klemens' + Laura's household. They will probably leave later in the day.

Rebekah and I are sitting outdoors partially shaded by a large umbrella, its stem supported by a heavy ~~stem~~ sheath fastened to the base of this large wooden plank table. The texture of the grey green umbrella canopy is somewhat thin: some of the moderate wind passes through it as it flaps and rotates in its dance.

Friday, Sept 2, 2005
Seaside, Nantucket

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10/21/05

Started out to Plum Isl? Arrived abt 3:00

Walking on board walk abt 3:05. Retn to care by 5:00

Waves very small (dumure) but beach had been

pounded firm in recent storms. Many different

"scribbled" wave lines and high up at front of

dunes piles of dried seaweed. Sandpipers at one

point, silent, tentative

Dear Dorry,

I am surprised at how little of the facts of I remember about ~~the~~ ^{early} my association with Joy at St Marks Place. We must have ~~shared the~~ been together during ~~the~~ I don't know when she started her studies at Bank Street, ^{probably} ~~and was too~~ ~~had no~~ ^{as you} and ~~about the~~ preoccupied with my own teaching assignments to ^{wonder what she} ~~ask what she was~~ was learning.

What I do remember about her is her personal qualities. ~~She was my~~ ~~only acquaintance~~ ~~She brought~~ I was impressed by the uncomplaining courage with which she went about ^{her teaching} ~~a teaching~~ ^{assignment} ~~job~~ in a Harlem school, ~~Day after day~~ ^{3rd or 4th grade} to which ^{her} children came without breakfast. She often lost her voice, but ~~continued~~ ^{kept} her matter-of-fact, steadfast demeanor. ~~I have~~ I have no snapshots, but I see ^{in my mind's eye} ~~for~~ the tilt of her chin and hear her ^{the laughter in her} ~~pleasant~~ voice ~~with its~~

mine love

11-13-05

Dear Margrit,

I enclose a note that you sent to me 8/19/79 with a photograph of Billy (now William) wearing a hat that we must have given you - perhaps hoping to protect you from the diseases incident to excessive sun-worship. It's an endearing photograph which you may not still have - or perhaps William might want a copy.

We have been very busy by our modest standards in the 2 weeks since you left - too busy for me to record everything in my journal, but here are some moments and observations that might interest you.

(As you were still here) 10/21 We returned to Plum Island on a very calm day, but walked easily because the beach had been so pounded, firm by recent storms.

10/30 We went back to Plum Island. Saw very high waves, breaking far out and on beach, which had been swept clear of all debris by recent waves. That night a Nathaniel tempest in the addition, from

which I was able to extricate Weeping
Rebekah, trying to study for Monday history
test. She was not involved in the tempest,
just the wounded bystander.

10/31 Halloween. I handed out small
allowances as I sat by day wearing
heating pad on left shoulder neck, for
pinched nerve, a racing problem
2 weeks later. Laura handed out candy
from 178, had many pounds left over,
which I unsuccessfully offered to
take and save for Tel. if variation.
See enclosed passage from NY Times metro
Diary item 2 for

↓ related story
My efforts were more ingenious but
came to naught.

Nathaniel ^{was a} Concerto Competition
on Nov 5 for which his preparation was
complicated by departure of his piano
accompanist to Paris to bedside of
ill mother. N did not win. A
Violinist did. 11/6 Tel call from

Anna Wikson about CD, photos
~~not~~ assembled by Jaden and marked

to Margaret
11/13/05

With note from me, Anne was very much pleased and said that her mother is still (sometimes) lucid enough to enjoy concerts to which Anne can sometimes take her. Grace looking still, sometimes plays piano.

Several tel calls and E mail ~~that~~ from my classmate Dorothy Brucholz Goodman (calls herself Dorothy Goodman even though she is the most aggressive woman I have ever known) Dorothy wants information about my much gentler classmate, Jay Rutland. With ~~the~~ whom I shared NYC apartment. It took me a long time to put together an appropriate note. Jordan helped me.

He and I attended one of the 5 performances of Fiddler on the Roof in which Rebekah & Nathaniel played in Orchestra. It was very well done, but hard to hear, more because of poor audio system than my deafness.

All this time and still for several more days I am reading &

re-reading (with some attention to a CD recording) Boris Pasternak's Doctor Zhivago.
~~11/10/05~~ 11-9-05, unexpected 3-4 hr visit by my brother, Peter, & wife, Letty. They came for a practical Internal medicine Conference, which Peter has attended several times, stayed with friends in Waltham, but had supper with us, were warmly welcomed esp by Benjamin. who had questions about Letty's painting, compared notes with her on perspective, which is part of his recent art classes.

11/10 and morning of 11/11. Visit from Helmut Fr. Dinghaus. On Thursday we walked at Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge under ~~black~~ ^{lead} skies. Not many waterbirds, but ~~black~~ beautiful. I don't Helmut visited at length in German. I walked a little ahead or behind. Helmut and I exchanged enthusiastic comments on Doctor Zhivago and on Denise Levertov's Tesserae (Tessarae).
More another time. Love Margaret

Mon 11/14/05 10:25 am

Dear Laura,

I don't like to interrupt the little bit of solitary time that you have, so I don't knock on your door or telephone. I have a question and other information to exchange.

① I'd like to invite Benjamin, just Beng, to have dessert with us tonight when Mr. Naylor comes to Supper. That would be about 8:15 pm. I think Beng might enjoy and learn from some of T. Naylor's stories about growing up on West Coast in an isolated sea coast area. Also he has story about his father's childhood (pet bear that grew up, attendant problems)

On a previous occasion I visited Nathaniel, and I expect to go around. More than one of them might be too disconcerting for our guest. →

1/14/05 (2)

I took N Y T. Book Review
which includes Children's Book Section.
I'll hand it over whenever you want it.
It has several important books and
also adult book reviews ~~of~~
relevant to our interests.

No Special quiet is needed tonight.
Mr. Naylor was delighted last time
to see and hear some ~~at~~ instrument
practice. He needs windows on
Other worlds.

Our schedule this week:

Tues pb at 1:00-2:00 / 4-5:30

Wed pb 9-2. (Thursday?)

Friday Jackson to New Eng Ophtn Socy

Part of day. Let us know if you
have transportation needs.

Morgan L

Wednesday 11/16/05

Dear Margrit,

We are wondering, Leah and I, whether you will be here in Belmont next Tuesday, a week from today.

So far as I can learn from Jackson you did not say so in the conversation that you had with him ^{on recent} ~~a~~ day ~~or two~~.

I do remember that on 11/1 or 11/2, when I talked to you on the telephone, you did say that you would come Tues Nov 22, be here overnight and on Wednesday and then on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, you would drive to the Cape to meet with friends - a tradition several years old.

Please let us know. We will be here most of the time Friday afternoon and evening and Sat Nov 19 also early morning Sunday Nov 20 and Sunday evening. The middle part of Sunday Nov 21 we will drive to

Amherst to spend ~~a~~ some time
with Jane (Flanders) Ziff and her
husband, a retired professor of
journalism at Univ. of Mass.. We
had met her briefly at the
memorial service in July and
Jochen has corresponded with her
— and at greater length with
her cousin (and best friend)
Cindy Behrman.

I understand that the
Work at 178 School St. is
coming to a conclusion.
When Klemons finishes up with
his intense 2 week stint "on
service", they will probably move
over next door. His final day
will be Sunday Nov 20.

This Friday I will be at the
Senior Center Book Group to talk for only
an hour about Dr. Zhivago. I like
the book very much. Jochen will be at
Optical Society meetings
part of that day.

11/16/05

Last night Rebekah brought to me a little story from NY Times Metropolitan Diary (mmdays only). It was pretty close to this:

A grandfather is putting the little boy to bed and is overwhelmed by his own feelings about the occasion.

Grandfather says, "Thank you for being my grandson!" Reply from the child, "Papa, I had no choice!"

Comment at end of the story,

Only in the movies can you get away with that.

My comment: As in other circumstances in life, we don't have much choice in ~~our~~ ~~the~~ the arrangements presented to us. Let's try to make the best of it.

Love, Margaret

11/18/05

519-255-1922

Barbara Cunningham 66
was w Margt yesterday afternoon
She did not want to call
her brother last night. Will
She has remarkable
was soc wh student at Univ.
She is also friends w husband
She ~~retired~~

At least
once a week in touch.

Cunningham, Barbara
519-255-1922

she called back abt 7:30 & spoke with you

Look for books abt Iraq Turkey for Bony

look for — Immense Journey &
All the Lonely Nights by —
Richard Wilbur poetry

11.20.08
Books I saw at the Ziff's house Amherst
The Stories of English
by David Crystal.

ordered
for
Arlington
Overlook Press, Peter Mayer, Inc
Woodstock 2004
ISBN 1-58567-601-2

Gessen, Masha 947.0684GES

The Two Grandmothers

Jane had the English edition, different title
Marten says that (?) Jane (?) reads Proast, in French
Derste in Italian, Gorch.

He appreciated the nuances in Dickens style
mention Dickens shift in Bleak House for
past to present times. He enjoys reading
essays by Macaulay, Addison, Johnson,
Orwell, Lamb. Their sleek, comely trimmings.
French poodle (brown/black) is Lizzie for
Elizabeth Bennett. (Pride & Prejudice) I did not
imagine abt 2 cats, one marmalade, other
black & white, who came to lunch table.

Robertson Davies Fifth Business
p. 14 ineffable (Jadinos)

Write to Jane Zoff:

My goodness, Jane, what a story!

If you had not offered to lend me your copy,
if I had ~~not~~ picked it off the shelf at my
library for inspection, dabbling. -

For Margrit:

11/23/05 / Wednesday

An overview of past week and today's
(indoor forecast) of schedule.

11-14 Mon - 11-16 ^{Benjamin came to dessert fruit & cookies,}
Repair of Green Van ^{by Naylor}

Now it seems to work. No complaint from K.
Mon. Thursday I continued to read / listen to CD
of Dr Zhivago. Friday Book group meeting.
No swim bec. no am lifeguard.

11/15 V. long tel conversation w. Jeanne Walls.

11/17 Brief memorial service for Estelle Cross at
a Funeral Chapel in Brookline. Only immediate
family members attended. Vincent did not go, but
went to evening dinner w. Laura & children at
Chinese Restaurant.

11/18 Friday. Jochen to Ophthalmology Society meeting
Margrit to Book Group & then to library

11/19 Sat. Margrit telephoned. Library.

11/20 Sunday GBYSO rehearsals and evening concert
at Symphony Hall. We did not go. We
were away at Jane (Flinders) & Martin Ziff's

house in Amherst MA from 9-5 (2 hr there)

Leah attended birthday parties & then spent
a while with me instead of going to GBYSO and

11/21 Monday. We went grocery shopping early.
Then I attended monthly book review program.
Prob a waste of time.

11/22 Primo all day. Jochen got book from library (~~that~~
the same that Jane Ziff ~~offered~~ wanted to lend to
me. Estel & Ruzya



Wed 11/23/05

I read a little more of Ester Ruzyn's
How my Grandmother's Survived Hitler's War
& Stalin's Peace, by Mascha Gessen
Dial Press (Random House) 2004.

Laura works today. Klemens hopes
to come home by 4:00 pm. He has
been working v. hard, long hours from abt
the beginning of War.

Nathaniel came home from Schl. abt
11:15. Benjamin will be going out
w/ friend & to movie from abt 3-
until after supper.

Leah will be home about 12-
You, Margrit, just called to say you
will be here abt 1:30.

Jochem is now repairing kitchen heater,
he will see patients at 1:15 and 2 pm.

I have been reading, carrying other family's
laundry (3 large baskets) upstairs & trying
to move musical instruments etc out of
walkways. **WATCH YOUR STEP!**

| Now 11:50 I will begin
food preparation. Yrs Truly, Margaret

Dear Margot ^{Changed}
^{Rewritten &}
^{marked} 11.30.05

I think that I have found the books that you mentioned, the ones you thought might be suitable for Hanukkah gifts. I'll describe them. I have already written one letter in which I expressed some of my reflections and then destroyed it, as being one that might be hurtful if my copy were read by other family members. Yes, I try to keep copies, so that I may be able to distinguish between my ruminations and what I really say. Sometimes, on later consideration I am bothered by my own past judgements.

One of the books has a title that ~~includes~~ ^{employs} a word that you used to describe one of the grandchildren: "compassionate". You said that child is "caring and compassionate". I don't think that the phrase applies ^{to any of these children} and I'll tell you presently why I disagree with the description.

The book is about Käthe Kollwitz's "Compassionate Art". My response to these pictures is strong. I find them very powerful and

Frightening. Misery, poverty, is not pretty,
often ugly. If the inexperienced person
looks at such pictures, he/she will probably
reject them outright with distaste, perhaps
even a sneer.

As I mentioned to you in a
recent telephone conversation ^{recent memory} I still feel
in my mind and ~~feelings~~ ^{reaction} my own first
reaction to Kallwitz's images of poverty, sickness
and death - also the frightening, grotesque,
probably true-to-life paintings that Van Gogh
made of the "potato eaters". They were
shown, several of these paintings of
Dutch or Flemish peasants in an enormous
exhibition at The Phila Museum of Art to
which Mother took Janet & me. I was
probably between 12 & 14 years of age. It
was my first experience of such a "black-
buster" show, though it was not thus described.
I note that in the ^{Kallwitz exhibition} booklet you purchased -
(with a good, detailed text), Kallwitz's sister is
quoted on the artist's life-long "dialogue with death."

Changed - Rewritten - in briefer form & mailed

12/8/00

my gradual increasing deafness

Notes for letter to Gertrude. Last events:

How I think of her in the road. Ice-also on rocks
Our visits to K.O. our hike on trail from Skull Gap
despite my problems in walking
The Nymphenburg Service for P. Flavelle. + resulting correspondence
Jakov's E-mail

- Correspondence with Peter M.P. my feeling of helplessness

Her letter & cards on my birthday

Waiting for the children
Wanted to see the wild roses, the pines. (Museum)

7 weeks occupation of Addition Rooms. Piano out today.
The water. oil prices. electricity. - Jakob's daily computation
dressing warmly

Reading: Loren Eiseley. The excavation of a life.

Excitement of weather: Cold. Still bright blue sky tomorrow stars

Christmas Cards. Dr. Jakob: A new plant
Mrs. walks observing trees.

P. Bren & Jane about calendars

→ Look for wildflower shop on Internet copy for Lamps

At Library: Call Miriam (mistress) → Audubon

Try to clarify book mixup.

Robert Penn Warren

617-314-2612

Notes for tel call to Shingleton's surgical coordinator

Ernst J. Meyer met Dr. S. at NEOS earlier this yr
and asked him if he could be present in A.R. for Gabe to attend
observe not assist - with cat surgery at same time or
Dr. S. was willing. Wd like to do this as soon as
convenient this month if possible.

617-484-8109

① Dec 12 (19), 26 ~~Jan 2~~

I called at 130. Spoke to Christine, who
will call me back.

She spoke to Edm at 510 on Thursday
Came at 7:00 on Dec 19th

Notes for telephone conversation - with Margot.

I spent about 5 hrs Thursday p.m. reading
making notes on my reading while waiting for
① Dr. Singleton's Surgical coordinator-secretary
to return our call about Joche's ^(desire) ~~desire~~ to
be present (not "assist") at a cataract procedure.
This is ~~to~~ scheduled for Monday Dec 19 beginning
at 7:00 am. While I waited for the call Joche
Vac. cleaned second floor & 1st floor Addition.

② At your library find NYT Book
Review Friday Dec 4th page 64
book Elsewhere by Zevin. The
reviewer says it is in the same class as
Twice Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt.
We are using your microwave. Ours
quit all at once. It is a great help
to me. Since I use it to defrost chicken
breast, start baked potatoes, cook frozen
& frozen vegetables. Joche likes it for
quick mugs of coffee, heating up tea.

News of K & children As usual I can
count on fingers of one hand my contacts w
them. One wk ago, with K, Laine, Benj
drove to Pagan Park Church for 1 hr +
Pammy recital including abt 3 min appearance
by Leah playing her Clementi piece

↓

As I told her later, I'd rather hear her playing piano at home - a variety of pieces - struggling to overcome problems. Yes, she said, and I (often) play better at home.

✓ Pat Hanley - cancer on head
will be 96 yrs About 12/11

Willow Bay Ha.ies No answer!

Telephoned Letty 5:30. They are about to sit down to eat

Call Alice

8:15 on a school day if really important. about ~~12/11~~

I also spoke with Richie. She is lovely.

Answer Peter's recent E-Mail to Tobby
Peter says Sue & Charlie will stop briefly then go on to Sue's parents in Melrose (?)

I should ask them to stop to see me

→ Show them old tattered books ←

Tell Peter to go for a walk w Frances.

Ask him to show you trachs he knows.

Show him where salamanders etc are hibernating.

Read a relevant book w him.

Don't try to teach play chess with him!

Very intimidating - Read Barbara's Christmas

- a good transition to loosening the hold of

Stereotyped W. American Hallmark x-mas.

(Bake) Bake bread! I am searching a bread book - retired from my library.

Tell Peter about Papine's grief at Xmas after

Grandfather M.P. died. Read about some nonsense

poetry. Owl & Porcupine. (Lear was manic-depressive)

Play games (hiding object in cloth bag, groping, feeling it) Choose things like CORN, mandarin,

Sugar cube, m & m, Shark pencil, trouble? ↗

and I wrote an E-mail about midnight 12/19

Topics for Email to Peter McP.
Hide object in a room in plan view
pencil taped to door. tea bag cover or bag
sticking out of book. Make a list.

Something you are ^{wearing} wearing.
Tell Peter not many people are ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ enviable position

Look up Jane McP's web site Read it.

Note for Email to Helmut.
How much I like the Bedside Book of
Birds.

Today 12/19 I asked Janet for recipe for
tummy. Softening canned chick peas. She said get
Crisp dried ones & cook them. She came for
→ short visit Tuesday

Cards that I have sent: Pat Loring, Pat Hardy ^{Floris}
Ruchie, Izaline, Alice McP.

Written: Jennie Buck.

Still to write: Janet. ^{Peter & Letty} Jennie. Ar Winnie, Eva

○ Jane Ziff

○ Miriam

✓ Dr Jakob

○ Gertraud

✓ Helmut

○ Rose

✓ Mrs Thayer
○ Teri Picante

○ Anna Wilson / Grace Ludwig

✓ Erika Klemens and children
with separate notes to each

✓ Pauline Brien

✓ Margaret 12/26

Dear Rose,

I have been thinking about you,
hoping that your family is gathered
about you now...

We hear fairly often from Margot, who
is very busy in her Detroit apartment to
which she moved

Dear Miriam,

Thank you

Date ?

~~Thank you~~ I want to thank you
for all the work you put into our book programs
I ^{only} wish that they were a little longer, that
~~there might be time~~ 1 1/2 hours is the best

Joe Salerno says that his book group meets

~~I think that the~~ It is interesting

~~to find~~ The varied interests and backgrounds
of the members ^{and preparation by} make ~~the~~ the exchanges

it ~~into~~ ~~very~~ ~~interesting~~

In Book notes:

List all books that I am returning
to library

Dec 24

When ~~do~~^{are} you ~~plan~~^{going} to travel.

Do you think of
When might you

~~mostly be~~ and several hiking exped. in the
Canadian Rockies have mostly been back

into the woods, ~~and~~ go there for one night

Even in Belmont I look anxiously ~~at~~ at
trees. How rich is the ~~extra~~ love of

How rich is the ~~human~~^{human} love &

literature of travel.

Some of journeys are ~~undertaken~~ ^{undertaken} unwillingly, are painful as you know in your early experience.

The representation of the flight of ^{into Egypt} Mary & Joseph with the infant Jesus. ~~have~~ ^{has} been often represented so beautifully with such softening of the rigours of that ^{the} flight. I enclose one of ~~those~~ ^{the} cards which I adapted ^{many} years ago from

Mohr's Christmas Card collection. I still have ~~a few~~ ^{of which} such ~~beautiful~~ ^{cards} because I don't know many people who ^{might well think about} would ~~understand~~ ^{would understand} appreciate as you I think ~~these~~ ^{the} ~~represent~~ ^{meanings of the} your ~~own~~ world.

~~I hope you will~~ Please
As you will see excuse the glue marks on the back of the enclosed postcard of the Coenrad David Post (^{Natural History Museum} ~~Museum~~ collection). I must have wanted to have it

near me ~~as a~~ ^{as a} pastoral security on a page.

~~Don't you~~
In fact to ~~think of~~ ^{for} see Joseph like a stout farmer kneeling down ^{for} the tree, the vivid blue of Marys lovely mantle against the dry grass. Not much for the hungry denbies!

Dear Laura Klemens

^{Leah Beny}
~~Leah Beny~~ & Pethen

^{I think that I should explain why we}
① We are not issuing an invitation for you ~~all~~ and Klemens and the children to come over for a Christmas Eve or Christmas celebration, because ~~it~~ it just does not make sense for you or for us

③ We enjoyed having you here in October and November, and hope that you will ^{come over} ~~return~~ individually ~~and~~ as a family whenever you ~~feel~~ want to see us, as individuals or as a family. Love Margot & Jordan.

② ~~But~~ I do not have the physical or the emotional energy for a Christmas Tree performance. Perhaps it was already ~~irrelevant~~ excessive ^{last year} ~~in 2004~~ and now I just see things more clearly. ~~A~~
2B The Tree ^{with this} ~~and all the~~ decorations are like ~~the~~ an untidy pet. I can't do all that extra housekeeping, can scarcely keep up with more modest daily ~~demands~~ demands.

2C ^{But} yesterday afternoon I went to the children's Room, looked over the

Christmas & Hannukah books,
and brought home to ~~my warm kitchen~~
a few that I have ~~brought~~
taken out before & a couple of
new ones. They are here in
my ^{usually} warm kitchen on the shelf with
~~my~~ a few cook books. I'll read them
myself and hope some of you will
want to look at or read them before
I return them. I expect to write
individual notes to each of the children -
love Margaret

To Rebekah.

I liked reading your essay on
The Scarlet Letter. I When I read your
~~competent~~ ^{have for you} essay on the Scarlet Letter. I thought brain
to your struggles with Hagerlofs
Wonderful ~~Belvedere~~ Adventures of Mills.
I am glad that you enjoy ^{reading} some of your
reading and hope that you can interest
enough to look at the Hannukah
& Christmas books that I brought home
yesterday. Perhaps ~~you~~ ^{you} will have
a little time to read something ~~these or~~
~~the~~ with me this week

Dear Leah,

I hope you will come to see me
this week. I have books to show you,
to lend you, ~~including~~ ^{or I think} Christmas Stories.
Do you remember the one about the ~~thawing~~ ^{thawing} Christmas Tree
~~which~~ ^{which} I think are
as good as ~~far~~ gripping & meaningful
as any that we have read together. I ~~think~~ ^{think}
like the ^{more serious one} one about the poor family
that might freeze to death if they don't
cut down their huge pine tree that
also shelters a family of geese.

I also have a couple of cookie
recipies that ~~would fit~~ making the cookies
would be a you might like to

try out with me. I never had a chance
to work in the kitchen when I was your
age because of an ~~ex~~ ~~heres~~ ~~controlling~~ ~~code~~
~~who not~~ Do you know that you can
be the ~~slave~~ ~~slave~~ of your servant?

Not included

12/25/05

Pauline Brien

190 Highland Ave #401

Somerville MA 02143

Sending note on

Winslow Homer card

The Dunes 1894

(MFA postcard broke)

2 women looking out over
harbor. Wind. Dune grass

Dear Pauline Brien,

Thank you very much for the beautiful
2006 calendar - with each full moon ^{reminder} ~~design~~
^{was} circled by your pen - I love that. Someone
listens to me!
~~hears what I say!~~

I intended to send you a note
at the beginning of December. I went through my
right away, searched my ~~archive~~ letter-
shelter card collection for the appropriate
picture. Now I see that this is the one
Finally I thought of this one, which
I have owned for a long time, a favorite of
mine because I have loved strolling among the
varied ~~grasses~~ ^{and} sea heathers ~~at~~ of the dunes,
to looking out over the water. It's a windy day!
Are they sisters, who enjoy
seeing ~~and~~ ^{together} what they do &
see ~~and~~ ^{together} together.

Forgive the smudged ^{crumpled} margins of the card,
which a token of how often I have looked at this scene.
Best wishes to you and your sister, Eileen.

12/25/05

Dear Helmut,

Graeme This is indeed a wonderful ^{present} ~~book~~.

Graeme Gibson's

The Bedside Book of Birds - An Avian Miscellany

^{which} ~~When~~ you gave ^{it to} me on November 11th as ~~well~~

~~to~~ home I had several others

Some of the selections I have read several times because they are so rich in suggestion, so beautifully written, but the book is ~~certainly~~ ^{not} by my bedside.

I don't want to know about birds in Grimm's fairy tales, birds ~~are~~ fatal birds as I drop off to sleep.

~~Perhaps~~ Probably the title was chosen by the ~~original~~ ^{new} publisher to make the book sell better. I watch ~~the~~ ^{the} little snowbird

(juncos) with renewed interest as he pecks for seeds before the next snowstorm.

~~Although~~ ^{disappointingly disappointed} I am a little sorry that we ~~did not have~~

~~the opportunity to look at the paintings at the~~

and the Fogg Art Museum closed on that day.

~~but~~ the walk that we took together along

Brattle Street was ~~so~~ interesting and called up the

forgotten ^{past} ~~past~~. (When I first moved to the Boston

area in the fall autumn of 1951) I lived

in an apartment on Brimmer Street near the Boston Common

To Helmut 12/25 (2)

still

Every school day I took the subway
to Harvard Square, walked up Brattle Street
to Sparks Street (~~the~~ 3/4 of the walk we both
w.m. you) and then went a few steps
further ~~to~~ to my new job at the Buckingham
School. ~~I~~ ^{on Nov 11} My footsteps on the slate

~~path~~ wide Winkled Winkled slate
pavement connected me with the ^{rich} rich
variety of that time. ~~Joachim says~~

~~that~~ I should have told you about
that I was once again at home in Cambridge
as I had not been for many years

Thank you also for your ~~sympathy~~
sharing our anxious anticipation of ~~the~~ ~~a~~
Christmas Eve misunderstandings. I ~~had~~ many
years ago when it was ~~a~~ a very little family.

Rebekah & Nathaniel I did not have a tree but rather
a centerpiece of greens ^{picked out} a dish of water with
colored marbles, some illumination ^{a string of} very tiny
lights. Joachim or I read the ~~same~~ Bible verses

Once ^{In subsequent} or twice on other ~~other~~ occasions we

^{sang the old} ~~Sung~~ carols, but ~~sometimes~~ it was these
occasions were easily guided by Jingle Bells &

Prody to Red-Nosed Reindeer. After lying awake
for several hours, ^{in morning} On the 24th I wrote a letter

To Helmut ③

addressed to my K and the children, Tamen
~~re~~ much copies and I sent it to each member
of the family next door. I ~~say~~ said that I
^{am now} ~~was~~ physically & emotionally capable to give a
Christmas Eve party — as I had ~~already suggested~~
~~to~~ I think that they had all reached that
conclusion. I invited them to come over at any
time to ~~see~~ look at, read the Christmas &
Hanukkah books that I had once again
brought home from the Children's Room at our
library. As a ~~kind of messenger~~ Rebekah
Knowing ^{that} the ~~imperfect~~ communication
network in that household is quite imperfect.
I sent ^I separate copies to ~~each~~ ^{every} child with
personal notes to each one. Rebekah, (as often
happens, was the ambassador who appeared
to ask Tamen & me to supper ^{a little later} after the
return of Benjamin ~~at~~ and Nathaniel from
the ~~separate~~ Catholic churches in Belmont &
Lexington where they were playing their harps
in late afternoon sermons.

So we got past our Seylla &
Charybdis, had a quiet uneventful supper
and afterwards Klemens shared Kodakman slides

of 1995 and 1996 family ^{half-way m} ^{the overnight stop} ^{children & Kon ple} ^{Sleed}
trips to Kinnarock including ~~Sleed~~ ^{everyone was very much}
and Snurmen. ~~But I~~ ^I feel much
interested. "Papa, have we seen these before?"
better on. Thank you for wanting

7 With us!

~~Tonight I am~~ trying to
finish my by Jochen by Jochen
Letter was edited, improved, sent by
E mail to Helmut before 1 am on 12/26

mon 12/26/am I telephoned Janet, alone
with cat Jane, until Peter Borgehen's family
arrive on Wed 12/28. She is fine, thinking of recipes
to use large ham, gift of Tom and Michi (mikey?)
We talked about Archie, Annie Egan.

Tel call to Lethy - ~~Peter~~ Peter not here?
Thanked her for maple butter

To Alex & Annie - Jochen told abt his friends to
turn on & off the furnace. Abt projects to
warm toilet seat w. infrared lamp. (^{heating pad} used)
Send Big Gray Goose abt the 7 chairs
for long ^{wrote to him about Annie Egan. abt the} books

11/08/06

As of 11/08/06 Not
Sent

As I said to Lety
in Tel Aviv

12/26/05

Dear Lety & Peter ^{Visit} Thank you for the sweet maple
batter, a reminder of Papa and
our days at home.
When I sit upstairs with Jackson in his 3rd floor
Study looking over some treetops and on a level of
~~down onto the street~~ ^{background} the brown leaves under
about on a level with some haretops I know
that my appreciation of what I see is
enhanced by Lety's ^{rooftop} ~~see~~ panoramas.

^{Norwalk} ~~Boston~~ many recent days I have been here
in my kitchen, right next to a warm electric
radiator but a warmly dressed finger over my
heart I don't always need it.

I have writing children's notes on cards that
I have owned for many years, some ^{many} ~~probably~~ from the
collection, some more recent. That I remember taking
from various collectors when we visited Cape House.
Others given to me by Jackson's Sister.

This mysterious Hilly Tree with Pristia Platan I
have turned over with wonder for many years.
I love the color & shape of the hilly leaves.
the design the strong
tough graceful branches and twisting roots.
There is room for ~~and~~ imaginative ~~the~~ interpretation. ~~There~~

Look up on Internet, find books
Loren Eiseley All the Strange Hours

Stupka Wildflowers

Dear Jane (Ziff) As of 1/08/06
Not yet sent

~~In honor~~ Like you a "write" letters in
my head ~~that never get down on paper, I~~
~~don't have the company of your Lizzy, but on~~
~~the way to the library.~~

Tonight I took off my shelf Ester o
Ruzya, a library copy of the book you offered to
lend to me. It is time to return it to
my library. I just thought that I ~~was~~
perhaps ~~another~~ look at it would help me to
say something ~~that would~~ meaningful.
~~express some of my regret and~~

~~But I just want to say~~

The pleasure of our visit has been ^{extended in} echoed
by the books you shared w. esp Ester o Ruzya

To Alex about Bonnie Egan - no photos
Does he remember anyone he does household help
Helen ^{Jared} and her children / washer. Mmon.

Forrest etc

The day that Peter & Betty came to Egypt on Nov. 9th

Not sent

Peter about Rebekah Grandparents who waits
I am so glad that we didn't get Christmas trees

Alex's situation perhaps rare.

He has unusual skills in making Toys.
Tell Peter about some of early days at Bayview Jct. About records &
listened to, poems I learned by heart. Departure of Bonnie Egan. Changing kitchen
performed.

Home Depot: buy reflective tape for bottom
Stair from ^{upward} hall down to front hall.

New broom (catalogue order of hand vac?)

Mother's helpers

Anna - Forrest
Cennie Connie

[Frances Frances Jarney
Frazier
Mary Coggins]

Testing pens: Acceptable?

December 30th

December 30th

December 30th

December 30th

December 30th

December 30th

2005

Warm ball pens work best
This works better when warm!

Leads pencil
December 30th

New filler!
Warm ball pens!
Ball point pen
works

Warm ball pens work better!

Home Depot / Hardware Store or
Kitchen supply store Reflective tape for
bottom step in our front hall. With upstairs
hall light on, it is still obscure at night.

→ Refasten towel ~~bar~~ bar in my bathroom
does it need new screws?

→ ? chair bar behind chair in kitchen?

→ magnet hooks for stove-side hangup?

Get NYT Book Review - Week in Review

Prepare cole slaw / pickled onions / cookie mix

Plan to take walk unless icy

Look over other packages for Jackson

He ordered
one from
Sierra

Wed night T. Naylor 7:30

Weather permitting

Menu plan

Cole slaw w (canned) tomatoes

Chicken w mushrooms / macaroni + cheese

? peas or beans w. onions

cookies

Wed morning. Cook up more cranberries

Dear Francis

I was very happy to find your note in the mail today.

I wonder how you will like the books in this package. ~~Have you~~
(Diorama?)

Telephone Miriam abt printed passages

- ← This would certainly not be a good approach if most members (those attending meeting had their own copies - too pedagogical?)
- ← prob. un congenial to Miriam

S²⁶ called Alice

Sat write to Francis

Thank you for your letter. I hope you will like these three books too.

I love My House. Everything is so neat, so easy to find what you need in that kitchen.

The Real Thief is a pretty complicated story. Did you expect it to end ~~as~~ that way? I wonder.

The book about dioramas is one that
I have to look at.

Dear Alice

I was pleased to find you sending
so ~~related~~ when I heard ^{her} story abt her walk

Deep River High Street

There were all things I mentioned in my letter

~~~~~ See Silas Marner  
George Eliot's superior understanding  
of the human heart of conversion  
change of life and heart of a solitary / isolated person to one  
who finds a meaningful life in his own community

Christmas Carol is a myth like Saul Cl.

Carole King called about  
Judge by ~~Paul~~ <sup>Frank</sup> Columbo (Percy too)  
No lecture - her name) - 146.46

Person who called Brandy - 1-800-226-3784 x4091

Jochen called back. Answer will take 3 wks. Klemens said  
for project some Sat

~~~~~ Message on ~~to~~ Another message on machine  
Tuesday morning - but Jochen says that is
just an advertisement.

~~~~~ Early afternoon Tel call to Janet.

# Library Search

## Robt Penn Warren

### Ardisson. A Vision

Walden: Mary Jane Astor & the Fiction  
of her Time

Send to Alice note abt books mailed

King Fox: <sup>the search for gold</sup> sky is falling.

Edw Ardisson Tom & Lucy at sea

Son & father go to town w. d. m. g.

Goodall The gossamer.

Note to (Mrs) Pat Hanley. She has in mind  
a lunch party. Note received today.

To Bay Haines Wilson now at Foulknerays

Mrs. Thayer: poems

E Mail to Peter & Letty  
about G+S  
Janet??

Children of New Forest

The Jacob's Ladder by Denise Levertov  
about 1958

The stairway is not  
a thing of gleaming strands  
a radiant evanescence  
for angels' feet that only glance in their tread  
and need not  
touch the stone.

It is of stone,  
A rosy stone that takes  
a glowing tone of softness  
only because the behind it the sky is a  
doubtful, a doubting  
night ~~of~~ gray.

A stairway of sharp  
angles, solidly built.  
One sees that the angels must spring  
down from one step to the next, giving a little  
lift of the wings:

and a man climbing  
must scrape his knees, and bring  
The grip of his hands into play. The <sup>(but)</sup> ~~out~~ stone  
consoles his groping feet. Wings brush past him  
The poem ascends.

Friday Feb 17, 2006

Dear Alice

I had intended to send a note along with the books that I mailed to you on Wednesday, but I also felt that I must that very day send a short letter to a friend in Germany. That's too long a story to summarize, but an interesting life-shaping adventure that I'll tell you another time.

When I send you books, it's a way of talking to you and being with you in imagination: imagination that rich space that is such a resource and refuge.

My choice of books is determined by what I know about the book and what I imagine about you and your family. The price of the books is a minor consideration. However, I must admit that the prudent parsimony of a lifetime reinforced by my habits of saving, reusing help me to see what is too good to throw away, too good to leave gathering dust on a basement shelf. Do you remember my mother, your grandmother, Jane McPhedran? Her household helpers

2

Watched her with amused awe as she carefully scraped the bowl clean before shaping the bread or cake in the baking pan. Such helpers had less money but had not developed mother's careful saving attitude.

So when I see a used book on the library Discard Sale shelf, I look carefully, read it and decide whether you or I might want it. It is very considerate of you to offer to pay postage, but that is certainly not a problem. Many of our purchase decisions are based on our life long habits "not on our savings bank balance."

In the same way, I look at, reread the mixing books on our home library shelves and try to imagine whether my grandchildren will ever look at them. I know and love some of these books but should go on to other intellectual and spiritual adventures. It is good for me to have family members who will, I hope, love and learn from the books I send. So, now to be specific in my words about these books. See p. 3 ↑

I chose the book about Gorillas by Jane Goodall because I found it instructive and congenial. The form and face of these animals is so uncongenial. I want to avoid or run away from what seems a grotesque distortion of the standards of beauty that we have learned from early childhood. But it's part the strength of this little essay to overcome my reaction. I will think of the three year old boy rescued from the watery moat and handed over to a gentle keeper by the fearsome-looking gorillas. I will think of the gentle and lonely gorilla kept in solitary cramped confinement for so many years until finally a young female gorilla is entrusted to him.

The little volume of folk tales, King Fox, has been on my shelf for several months. I like this simple, direct style of narration. I had hesitated about the morals implicit in some of the stories. I am interested in your response. I could say something about several of the tales, but in the interest of brevity and your freedom to think and find for yourself. I'll stop here on that book.

(see p. 4 →)

To Alice (continued) (4)

The story and illustrations by Edward I  
Ardisson of the <sup>(seagoing)</sup> adventures of Robert  
Tim and Lucy are charming. Klemens read  
some of the Ardisson books, and my grandchildren  
loved them. They belong to that wide-  
ranging category of books about the  
child on his own, separated and managing  
the dangers and complexities of the world.  
The books are a delightful amalgam of  
fantasy and reality. I love that skinny  
old lady sitting on the hatch-cover to help  
contain the <sup>pirates</sup> pirates! See also other books in  
this series and Johnny The Clockmaker!

I have written all of <sup>this</sup> note in  
The Childrens Room, at the Belmont Library.  
There is a quiet, isolated corner with a  
big table, a little withdrawn from the pre-  
school traffic, but offering an entertaining  
sand track of baby voices and mothers and  
other carers' voices.

Now I'll go upstairs, read the  
newspaper, skim it over before walking  
home (for 20 min) on this mild, windless.  
I'll telephone next week

Tuesday evening 2/21/06

Dear Alice,

Thank you for your pretty little Valentine note. I'll put it up where I can see it when I stand at my kitchen sink. My feelings about Valentine's Day are mixed; complex. I hated it when I was in Fifth Grade, sat at the back of a nice bright classroom, could see how many envelopes other children were getting, tried to conceal my meager collection! It surprises me that a Friends School had not yet realized the unpleasantness of such poor planning. In schools where I <sup>(later)</sup> taught, (mostly girls' schools) I think the day was ignored. During the three years that we went to Nantucket Island every two months so that <sup>eye rare</sup> Jackson could take care of the residents, we learned that February was "Hate Month". That was in the period from 1967-1970. Islanders did not use the airplane often, and got pretty cross at each other during the long, windy, sometimes icebound winter weeks. In our own small family unit, Jackson and I are rather matter-of-fact people avoiding display and.

celebrations. That's made it difficult for  
our son Klemens to rise to the expectations of  
his wife Laura. <sup>whose</sup> family <sup>has always</sup> celebrated Jewish  
holidays, birthdays, the Red Sox and of  
course Valentine's Day - as well as Thanksgiving.  
You probably have observed in your nursing  
career that holidays often place additional  
emotional burdens on the sick and elderly  
- and even on some otherwise "normal"  
(whatever that is) persons. too bad doesn't admit

Well, I hadn't expected to say  
all that, but I enjoy writing to you as I  
would expect to talk with you.

I have another collection of books on the  
table. This time I'll send my notes first.  
I intended to telephone this morning but did  
not get up promptly and missed what I  
believe to be the best time for you.

The most attractive of this collection  
is one about The New Land. It starts  
at a European seaport, perhaps Liverpool,  
perhaps northern Germany. You follow a  
family to America and then by train  
and then by ocean liner.

(3)

to the section of prairie where they settle;  
build a sod house and spend their  
first winter. The pictures are beautiful.  
It's all very simple (too simple to be truly  
real - but with very good realistic touches).

Another book is about architecture:  
How It Feels To Be A Building. I find  
it interesting but I really don't like it  
and can't quite figure out why. I don't  
think the family next door <sup>(my grandchildren)</sup> liked it either, did not  
really open it wide. I sometimes browse and  
edit the shelves of books they carried over  
from the overcrowded shelves of their little  
house. Some I know they loved, but not this  
one. I'll be interested to know what you  
think.

Dwayne. The Storm Drain is fascinating  
but has a few ugly bits. What can you  
expect of a book that's about dirty streets?  
To me, it's worth-while to think about  
urban problems, "city housekeeping".  
Since my 12 year old grandson, Benjamin  
had written his name on an end paper,  
I asked him if I might send the book.

to Francis. He looked it over carefully and said that I should. Then he told me that he is reading about a man who was shipwrecked and had to live on an iceberg for a while, The Ice Hermit. He says it's a good book. "You should read it, Granelon!" Perhaps I'll try to bargain with him and try to get him to read one of the books on my shelves that are a little too old for Francis now.

The 4th book in the package is a very simple, beautifully illustrated book about birds. Yeah, now, ten years old, read it often but is happy to send it to you and your family. We are getting to the time of year when we can be outdoors for Pongee walks and watch birds. We do not put up bird feeders anymore because of squirrel problems. We don't want to encourage the squirrels because we have some holes in the roof line where they enter our attic! That's the beginning of too long a story for tonight.

Love  
Ann M. Hargrave

Notes for E Mail to Peter & Letty 2/26

In a week you'll be home. I hope that  
the Northeast will be warmer by then. Tonight  
we are told temp will drop from 20s to 8° - or  
lower. I missed my chance to walk today  
waiting for 2" of snow to melt - but then it got  
too windy. Brief visit with Leah, first here in our kitchen  
then next door to her kitchen. She had been

visit Vincent Paolo (her other grandfather)

A pretty isolated week  
A week. Janet flew in ambulance <sup>air</sup> plane with  
her 85 yr old friend Philip ("Phil") to  
his son's house in Nashville. I'm not clear whether  
the son Philip was ~~one of the~~ also on this trip  
but he must certainly be the one who paid.

Peter Bingham called last Sunday morning to  
tell me about this, obviously dubious about the  
rationale (?) for one ICU to another ICU

~~I have to say from~~  
~~I missed Janet's leaving~~ Now, as she said  
today she is back w/ her cat on her lap  
and does not expect to return to Nashville  
"unless Phil gets better"

Last night R was here, ~~but~~ telling us abt  
her day's visit to Tufte, where she sat in on  
a class <sup>where</sup> ~~where~~ they were reading Iliad/Odyssey in translation

2/28/06

Dear Alice, I, ~~am~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~up~~ <sup>at</sup> 2:00 with ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> mother used to say that breakfast was "the best meal of the day." In those days it was not so hurried a meal as ~~that~~ <sup>it</sup> is in many modern households. The fact that you sometimes read to Francis before he goes to School is a good thing, a relaxed beginning. I remember enjoying morning sunshine in the Cone House apartment. Were you ever there? Probably not. This morning ~~after~~ <sup>after</sup> our telephone visit about your successfully completed tuberculin test and the bit that you read to me from the funny cat book and experiences shared about children; how much do they need to know animals, birds, pets? I walked cheerfully down to the Senior Swimming Session at the High School pool. And I kept my good mood even though the pool guard never came! So six or seven old ladies and gentlemen got dressed again - after a 30 minute wait - and ~~went~~ <sup>went</sup> home! Anyway, I had a nice sunny walk at the least windy time of the day. The

Would-be swimmers all had to get back into their cars to go home, I spent part of the morning with a couple of plant and tree books thinking of what I might hope to see in my rather neglected back yard. Have you any sunny spot for a few random plants?

When the weather moderates, I'll send along the books that I described in a previous letter. I am glad that you are making your own choices from your own local library, and I suspect that the range of books is much wider and more stimulating than what I found in the Virginia bookmobile. It's good that so many gifted and imaginative writers <sup>and artists</sup> have turned their energies to books for children. You have certainly noticed that some of the writers and artists are speaking to you, the mother, father or other adult, too. Sometimes there is just a sly aside, but often the meaning of the story has a universal message.

It's getting late. Tomorrow we must buy groceries, see three or four patients and fix supper for Kibbles & the children. Love, continuing

Saturday 3.04.06

Dear Alice.

When I was in the library today, I spent some time in the Childrens Room looking up a few books that I enjoyed reading to my grandchildren.

One is a very simple picture book with the appropriate title: Simple Pictures Are Best. It is written by Nancy Willard, illustrated by Tomi De Paola. It was not in the library today, but when I asked the Librarian for it, another lady waiting to check out her books, smiled and gave the name of the author and illustrator. I won't try to tell you the story; the title itself has become a sort of quotation that my granddaughter Leah (10 year old) <sup>exchange</sup> ~~project~~ when we see that a good ~~plan~~ is getting much too complicated.

Tomi De Paola has written a series of little chapter books about his own family and early childhood with <sup>such</sup> titles as 26 Fairmount Avenue, On My Way, Here We All Are.

I promised myself to go to bed  
early, but it's already 11 pm. I hope that  
your parents are safe at home though  
probably shivering in our northeast climate..

I have been reading some poems that  
I like by a modern American poet,  
Richard Wilbur

who uses formal  
tradition forms and rhymes

I can't understand what he has

written, but I hope to return to the

lines and figure it out. like ones

daily experience

I have

It is a matter of words

the obvious

One is a very subtle

ambiguity

a few books that I enjoyed reading to me

the world is a very

large I just

Don't

Don't

Dear Rosalee & Raoul Kirby

Father and I send our sympathies  
to you in the loss of your <sup>mother</sup> ~~mother~~. ~~Rose~~  
~~was~~ Although I ~~only~~ ~~became~~ I had heard about  
Rose <sup>as</sup> my sister-in-law <sup>most friend since</sup> childhood long  
before I actually met her. We shared interests in teaching  
teaching ~~and in children~~ and in wild flowers and  
Only <sup>except for telephone calls and I have</sup> Once I had the chance to be alone with her ~~for~~  
~~about~~ <sup>It was</sup> ~~on~~ a tea time visit when she told me  
about her <sup>story</sup> ~~story~~ <sup>an amazing story</sup> of her memory of accompanying her  
grandmother on visits to the ~~sick~~ <sup>household</sup> sick. Rose wanted  
to be a nurse, sometimes a long time as they walked and she learned  
cuddlers and then heard what ~~was~~ <sup>had been</sup> about the patient.  
what was said, what was done. ~~These were her early lessons about~~  
had impressed she learned about pain and people ~~was~~  
obviously ~~had been~~ her early ~~introduction~~ <sup>introduction</sup> to life  
living. I hope you. More recently in 1998 I ~~was~~

I telephone Rose on several occasions when  
Once in 1998 I ~~think~~ I telephoned Rose to ask for  
help when Margaret made a midwinter trip to Ken. to  
entertain fulfill a long standing invitation to entertain a  
much older friend. Despite her not yet healed broken shoulder  
the trip was

Saturday April 8.21

Dear Mr. Thayer.

I want to return your book, The Peabody Sisters today before we start our long trip to Fannerock, Virginia next Wednesday. We will be gone at least two weeks and possibly very busy when we return. I have kept Megan Marshall's book for re-reading. Every time I open it I find a passage that seems new again. I feel as if the author were telling me the story. The notes more than one hundred pages of them tell you many more illuminating tales.

For example. I return to pp 352-356: Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary & Hawthorne with these wonderful beardless portraits; pp 182-4: comparison of Peabody sons to daughters; Elizabeth's correspondence with Wordsworth; Elizabeth's anthologies for children.

While your book sat on my dining-room table, ready to be picked up in the all too frequent gaps in my routines - it was committed on this week by a friend of Megan Marshall.

and by a "lateral descendant" of William Ellery Channing, who was interested in the books portraits of Channing.

The other biography that I mentioned to you, Andrew Delbanco's, Melville,

His Life and Work (Belmont catalogue 913.3  
Melville  
#1 Del)

is also very well written, includes much analysis of the writer's stories, novels, his friendship with Hawthorne, comments wisely on the over-wrought phantoms of homosexuality. Delbanco also wrote bios of William Ellery Channing

On the trip to Virginia we will probably take along a recent anthology of poetry, Staying Alive, borrowed from Wayland Library through the library network and recommended to my husband by his computer correspondent. We will prob buy a copy of this rare event in this house where the books crowd the shelves and lurk in stored boxes. Ex rose messy note, must keep a copy so I can remember what I wrote - not just what I mediated

Dear Eleanor Jo,

Please accept our loving expressions of sympathy on the loss of your sister. I promised Jordan weeks ago that I would write to you and did not do so because I found it so difficult to say more than ~~that~~ what is barely conventional, but felt so much more for which I could not ~~then I could find words~~. Only in the past week have the ~~exposed~~ fragments of experience come together as the tiny bits make up a mosaic ~~of~~.

I had heard about ~~Rose~~ <sup>the Cox family</sup> and especially about Margrit's best friend, Rose, for years before I met her. My first memory of Rose is as she stood ~~in a~~ in a brightly lit spot at The Community Ctr. - perhaps at the memorial service for Dr. Heinz Meyer. <sup>She was vigorous, then - as opposed to her - she stood as she was</sup> Her hair was white. She had the serene expression of someone who was at peace with herself. I admired her beauty & serenity. Later she came to see us when we visited <sup>Klemens & his family the</sup> with the children on their <sup>family</sup> ~~vacations~~ vacations, ~~in an over-busy life~~. I was impressed with the quiet attention she gave to

Only once can I ever recall sitting alone, just Rose & me for about an hour. At that time visit she told me a story <sup>of her childhood</sup> that has stayed with me and ~~seemed to me~~ I was then not so good a listener as I think that I have become later in life.

~~But the impression I got~~

~~But my~~ But I think what she told  
me then - perhaps 10 years ago - reveals her  
early development as a listener, ~~someone to~~  
interpreter of ~~adult~~ <sup>adult</sup> experience, ~~already as a child~~  
learning a still rare adult skill

Rose told me that as a child she heard  
Sometimes accompanied an older relative, I believe  
her grandmother <sup>when she</sup> visited neighbors <sup>when they</sup>  
were sick <sup>invalids</sup> or otherwise. Rose walked with her,  
wanted outdoors and then <sup>listening to</sup> was told the  
stories <sup>of</sup> the <sup>reflections of</sup> wisdom of the older woman.

At the time I asked no questions. I was not  
as good a listener as I hope that I have <sup>become</sup> later  
since become.

~~As a family~~ As a family I knew that ~~her~~ Rose's  
skill in listening ~~interpreting~~ <sup>protecting and keeping safe</sup> and acting in her  
understanding <sup>helped her</sup> ~~was~~ helped her friend Margaret and  
Margaret's <sup>anxious</sup> family. In particular I remember  
the occasion <sup>early</sup> in 1998 when I telephoned Rose for help.  
That very cold winter when Margaret stayed alone in Kō.  
She had broken her shoulder falling down the kitchen stairs.  
Although she was provided to me to Boston for surgery,  
she wanted to cut short her rehab therapy to return to Kō -  
even to that to maintain an old friend. ~~But~~ In fact I know

Letters &

Aug 2005-

Occasional notes on  
personal telephone calls

